

Minutes of the Little Bowden Neighbourhood Forum on 18th January 2023 at 7.00pm at Welcomm Communications, The Point, Market Harborough, LE16 7QU.

Present: Beverley Brown, Simon Hobbs, Jonathan Davies, Pete Urmston, James Turner, Cllr Peter James, David Lax, Sally Lax, Alex Beltrao, Lucy Hobbs, Wendy Savill, Matt Bills, Keith Nixon, James Ward, John Comont, Amanda King, Cllr Barry Champion.

Apologies: Jan Turner, Kay Hillier, Clair McLachlan, Kevin Millard, Phil Baildon, Alison Iliffe, Michele Millard, Ron Counte, Janet Lee, Peter Critchley, Maggie Hadkiss, Neil Hadkiss.

Introductions of LBNF Chair, Secretary, etc

Could the group put feelers out for meeting venues within the Little Bowden area.

1. Minutes from 6th December approved as a true record.

Little Bowden NF email address – LBNFHarborough@gmail.com for communication.

2. Speeding on Kettering Road - Cllr Peter James, Cllr Barry Champion and James Turner updated the group regarding speeding on Kettering Road. Data has been collected by highways, reflective bollards and refuge islands. Repeater signs cannot be put in a 30mph zone. Suggested residents talk to the police. Cllr Champion told the group about the speed complaint form. **SH to circulate to the group.**

There is a repeater sign at 40mph but not closer to town. Evidence is required by highways. Cllr Champion has circa £25K potentially to assist with the Market Harborough Transport Strategy. Barry is going to liaise with the traffic consultants. LBNF Transport Group to be involved.

MB suggested that this issue should go into the Neighbourhood Priority statement (with actions) and then specific actions on to the Neighbourhood Plan to become policy.

BC suggested that S106 money will soon to be allocated for more wider use.

SL suggested that the Transport group can follow up on this and report back.

BB told the group about the meeting with police-woman Laura Bolton. JT invited to join Transport Group.

3. Website - BB told the group about a plan for the Harborough Town Hub to fund a website for the all the Forums. The Forum will not want to spend the funds on a website for all forums. **KM to follow up.**
4. Formal structure of Little Bowden Neighbourhood Forum – David Lax told the group about the options regarding the structure of the group. As currently the LBNF is constituted, it could be an unincorporated association of individuals without a legal standing. However, members are personally responsible, but finance cannot be involved, and the members would be responsible for the organization. Unlimited liability would fall on the members.

It could become a Limited Company, usually used for commercial companies. Another route would be a Community Interest Company. This requires a little more paperwork to become incorporated including a Community Interest Statement which needs to be approved as well as Articles of Association which dovetails with the constitution. There needs to be a board of directors. The company would be limited by guarantee so each members guarantees a nominal amount. If the operations cease, the funds need to go to another entity. This could be the Harborough Town Hub.

PU asked what structure current established forums have. Saddington as an example have set up a CIC.

JT suggested that the group might not be eligible to apply to be a charity. JC suggested that a charity structure does not lend itself to this type of group.

Dual signature bank account to be set up. Everyone needs to agree to the liability. Could the HDC hold the money for all the forums? MB to ask Saddington Chair and Black Horse Community if Little Bowden can discuss directly.

The current constitution states that LBNF is a fully constituted body. This need to be altered. The **LBNF officers** will meet to discuss how to move forward.

5. Proposed cycle path on Kettering Road - JW updated the group regarding the proposed cycle path and the meeting with Bob Bellm (Harborough Transport Action) and Anna Singleton (Sustrans). Communications are continuing between Planning Officers, Sustrans, James Ward and Bob Bellm of Harborough Transport Action (HTA) and LCC. Cllr Barry Champion, Chair of planning offered to rattle cages **JW to send details to Cllr BC**

No provision of cycle path to Aldi on proposed plans. The potential route alongside the railway and over the river has been discussed with Sustrans who will look at the possibilities on a visit.

6. Working Group update – **SH to circulate list generated from post-it note exercise on 3rd November 2022**. PU explained the actions and evidence gathering of each group. MB explained evidence must inform the Neighbourhood Plan. Low level targeted consultation with the community is needed to obtain feedback from the community. Determine how the evidence can be developed into objectives for the Plan. Could be written questionnaire, community breakfast meetings or any effective way of demonstrating the evidence that has been gathered.

Built environment – Pete Urmston (Lead), Alex Beltrao, Christine Herrick and Ron Counte.

Transport Group – Jan Turner (Lead), Amanda King, Phil Baildon and Kev Millard.

Flooding and Greenspace – Sally Lax, Clair McLachlan, John Comont and Jonathan Davies.

Social and Community activity – Wendy Savill, Janet Lee, Alex Beltrao.

Each group to update progress at full meetings and call upon support where needed.

MB outlined the Neighbourhood Planning process through to referendum with regular targeted consultation. BC suggested looking at examples of reviewed Neighbourhood Plans. Reviews are undertaken on existing NPs over two or three years and how detailed the reviews are, will depend on whether it needs to go to another referendum or not.

Group to investigate other Neighbourhood Plans such as Saddington, Shearsby, Fleckney, Houghton or Great Bowden.

7. AOB

JD - Working Groups to get together if possible (JD to join Flooding and greenspaces).

PJ – Flooding update suggested for next meeting. Jubilee Gardens update petition had 320 signatures.

DL- Objective is to write the NP. The group needs to continue to focus on this.

AB- Could he have a map in CAD format to show LB boundary. Suggested defining the roles of the people on the Forum. Forum is the management group. Run by the Committee

members. Working groups will determine the detail but the whole group can input. AB will join 'Built Environment and Social and Community Activity).

LH – will join 'Flooding and Greenspaces' group

WS – will join 'Social and Community Activity' group

MB – suggested Neighbourhood Priorities Statement could be written quite quickly.

KN – has experience of Community Interest Company pitfalls. Will speak to DL.

JW – also suggested monitor planning applications and obligations.

SH – letter to new Planning obligations Officer to undertake monitoring of planning apps.

AK – will join Transport working group

BC – asked for brief from James Ward. BC asked what the future of the Forum is (five years to get NP adopted). Once the Forum has expired another can be set up (with same people where possible). The Harborough Town Hub has been set up as the umbrella group to form the Forums and there is not timescale for this to expire.

Next meeting – 14th or 16th February 6.30pm.

Meeting closed -